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ANTI-INVITATION

Have you already heard or read anything about the World Postage Stamp Exhibition which is going to take place in Prague, Czechoslovakia, between June 22 and July 7, 1968? Do you intend to come and see it? Before you take the definitive decision, please, pay attention to the following questionnaire. Otherwise, it may happen, you'll come back deeply disappointed! The purpose of our questionnaire is to prevent you from any disillusion.

Please, think over each question thoroughly before saying your "yes" or "no." Each affirmative answer equals ten points, a partial one to five points. zero is to be written in case of a negative response.

"Yes" "Partially" "No"
10 p. 5 p. 0 p.

- | | | | |
|---|------|------|------|
| 1. PRAGA 1968 is expected to be the biggest philatelic exhibition ever realized. Have you been already present at an exhibition which claimed to be the highlight of the philatelic history? | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| 2. Do you know another method how to survey and confront in no distant time the largest number of the famous pink and blue Mauritius stamp veterans ever shown at one and the same exhibition, without waging the trip to PRAGA 1968? | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| 3. Have you ever been given an opportunity to count up all the towers, steeples and turrets of the "hundred-spired" Prague from a balloon flying over the city? | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| 4. Have you seen elsewhere 2 million postage stamps displayed at the same time in one exhibition area? | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| 5. Are you in a position to extemporize how many perforation teeth there may be on all the stamps involved? | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| 6. Have you ever accomplished a 6 mile walk amidst nothing but postage stamps? | ---- | ---- | ---- |
| 7. How many postage stamps could be affixed on the surface of the balloon PRAGA 1968 whose diameter equals some 18 meters? Do you find the task too easy? Well, then try to figure out the | ---- | ---- | ---- |



downward movement of the balloon (in meters or yards respectively), if it is covered exclusively by exhibits PRAGA 1968, and the upward movement of its total value (in Czechoslovakia's crowns or in your country's currency respectively) if none of the stamps is damaged. Will you manage it? -----

8. Would you lose your head in the face of two milliards (billions) Czechoslovakia's crowns? (This is the amount which all the exhibits have been estimated at and insured by the Czechoslovak Insurance Institute). -----
9. Would you like to be the 250,000th visitor to PRAGA 1968? -----
10. Do you think better to stay at home and enjoy your collection? -----

The maximum you can reach by saying "yes" to all these questions represents 100 points. It would be foolish, however, to say "yes" in case No. 5 (the most valuable stamps—classic issues—to be found at PRAGA 1968 in

quantities never seen before, are not perforated!) and No. 9 (the main prize being reserved for the 300,000th visitor in line with the attendance expected). But even when having realized 50 points only, please, do not visit PRAGA 1968 in order not to be disappointed! In the opposite case, do not hesitate any more, the accommodation facilities in Prague will be soon exhausted!

The questionnaire has been published as warning in any case.

—Committee responsible for the objectivity of
invitations extended to the public

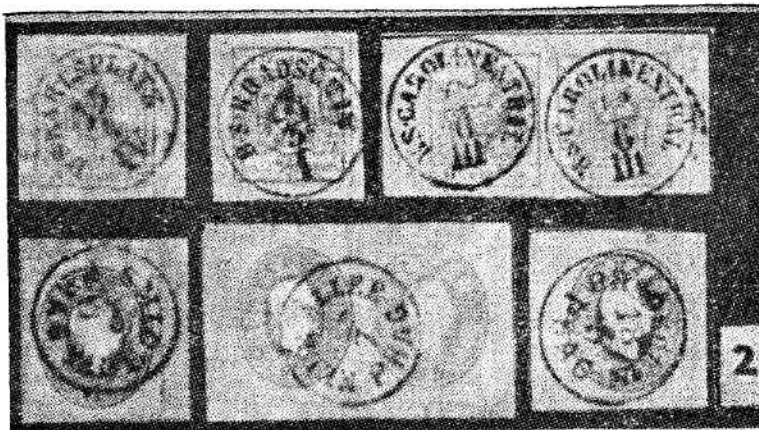
PRAGUE SIGHT-SEEING TOUR VIA OLD POSTMARKS

By Pankrac Zajíček

From Filatelie

The mail service and its carriers were always an important element of history, and more, we may even compare them to inquisitive and everpresent tourists. Once a group of people decided to build themselves a community somewhere, a mailman showed up for reconnaissance first and it did not take long for him to come back officially and stay for good. The Czech capital Praha (or Prague) was no exception. The modern methods of mail delivery were of course, unknown at that time, but the Czech version of the famous "Pony Express" mail was established by Emperor Ferdinand I in 1526. Its terminal was the "House at Three Stars" on the Malostranské Náměstí (Square) and from this square its coaches started on their long runs to Vienna, where they turned south to Venice and Rome—this was called the Italian Imperial Mail. Another leg of this service, the German Imperial Mail, started also from Prague and headed to Dresden and further North to its end, at Hamburg. We won't elaborate on later mail routes from Prague because these routes could possibly interest only our philatelic-geographer friends and readers. However we must mention the fact that these mailmen of yesteryear were not only good tourists, they had to be excellent sportsmen and athletes as well. In 1638 the so-called "mail on foot" was established between Prague and the Silesian town of Breslau (the present Polish Wrocław) with the route divided into six relay sections: Prague-Nymburk, Nymburk-Bydžov, Bydžov-Náchod, Náchod-Kladno (Kladsko), Kladno-Frankenstein, Frankenstein-Breslau. One mail "runner" was assigned for each section, and he really had to "run" with the mail. His departure and arrival at the next post station were registered for check-up and control purposes. Unfortunately we don't know what records—if any—these mailrunners established and kept improving. We also don't know the speed with which they had to "run" with their mail. In

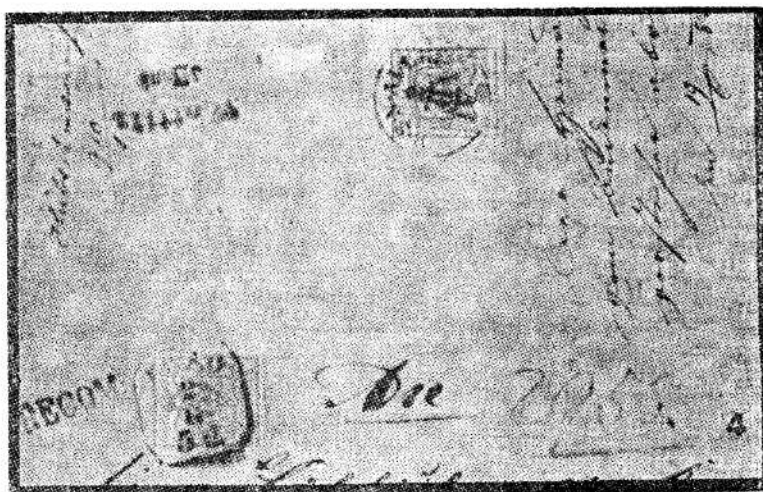




any case, the approximate "as the crow flies" distance of each section varied from 20 to 30 miles, so we may safely presume that these mailrunners had to be a hardy lot.

But back to the old Prague. In 1723 the Prague post office moved from the Malostranské Square to a house in the Lázeňská Street, in the same borough of Malá Strana. In 1742 followed another move, this time to the Lichtenstein Palace on the Malostranský Rynk. At that time there were 3 mailmen to take care of mail deliveries for the whole town. One for the Old town borough (Staré město), one for the New town borough (Nové město) and the third one for borough of Malá Strana (which included the Czech Ryal Castle, Hradčany). At that time there were two small substations which served as collecting points for letters. One was at the present site of the Prague Václavské Náměstí (St. Wenceslas Square) and the other was located on Dlouhá třída (Long Street). In 1782 a private post office was established in the Celetná ulice (Celetna Street) which operated for ten years and then was taken over by the state postal authorities. The central post office moved again from the Lichtenstein Palace to its own building, the former Dominican Monastery, at the Karmelitská Ulice. But not for long. With the development of railroad transportation, it was decided in 1849 to move the central





post office again, this time to the house on Poříč Square (house number 1037) which was close to the Prague railroad depot. Then in 1873-74 the new central post office building was erected in Jindřišská Ulice (Street) and is still there.

Our historic mail tour across Prague with old postmarks and cancellations as our guides goes back as far as November 1, 1782 when the first postmark VON PRAG was used for the first time. (Pict. 1). Until the first issue of Austrian stamps in 1850, this first Prague cancellation had undergone many changes, both in shape and design. With Prague's growth and development, the gradual adjustment of its postal services was also necessary. Therefore in 1850, five mail collecting substations were established. These substations cancelled all posted mail with a one-circle 23 mm diameter postmark with the town's name, initials B. S. (Briefsammelstelle), the date (day and month) and Roman numerals I to V denoting the location of each respective substation. (Pict. 2). These were: B. S. Karlsplatz (Charles Square); B. S. Smichow (Smíchov); B. S. Hradschin (Hradčany); B. S. Carolinenthal (Karlín); B. S. Neue Allee (Nová Alej, the present site of Na Příkopě, one of the busiest thoroughfares in Prague).

Mr. Müller, the author of the classical catalog of Austrian postmarks and cancellations doesn't differentiate among these varieties of Prague's postmarks. In addition to the above mentioned five mail collecting substations, the letters and other mail were also collected at Prague's central post office, which cancelled all its mail with a simple postmark Prag. Until June 1, 1851, there was also in operation a special mail collecting substation for Prague Jewish citizens. It was operated under a special license as a private enterprise by Mr. Taussig. So far it had been impossible to establish if this substation had its own special postmark or if its posted mail was simply relayed to the Central post office for cancellation. Letters collected by all these substations were brought daily to the Central post office, where in addition to their own circular postmarks were cancelled with the Central post office postmark which was of a square type with the same date. The same procedure was also followed for several years after 1850 in the case of letters cancelled with pre-stamp period postmarks. (Pict. 3). The letter with the postmark of mail collecting substation (B. S. Smichow 9. 9. III.) has an additional Central post office square postmark of Prag 9. 9. 2ab which shows the time of arrival of the letter to the Central post office. Thus the square postmark served as a sort of receipt control mark before the letter was expedited to its destination.

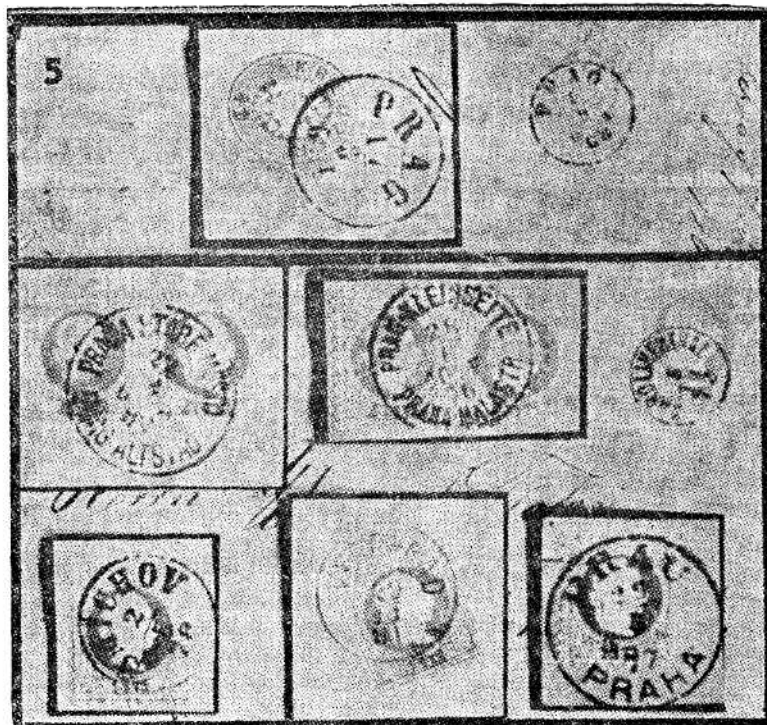
Registered letters posted at substations were cancelled with their circular postmarks and with the square postmark of the Central post office with an additional handstamp "Recom" or "Recommandirt" (Registered) (See pict. 4—a letter cancelled B. S. N. Allee 2.6.IV—PRAG 2.6.5 U RECOM:).

After 1859 these substations were discontinued and replaced with regular branch post-offices which used postmarks with both names—the town "PRAG" and its respective borough. At first, these postmarks were only in German, however some time later they were either bi-lingual—Czech-German or Czech only. (Pict.5).

This sight-seeing tour of Prague some one hundred years ago with the help of old postmarks of the area tells us one more thing. When we look at the postmarks of Libeň, Žižkov or Vyšehrad—some 80 or 100 years old—we recall that for Prague citizens of that era—these communities were their favorite Sunday and holiday outing places—"near our town" as they used to say. For present Prague citizens however, these names represent a borough, or section of some subdivision of their own town, because what used to be "near the town" is located now nearly in its center.

The purpose of this little postal history expedition is to acquaint the reader with the history of Prague's postal system and its services. I also presume that some of the readers may have in their collections those Prague's postmarks which are not registered in Müller's catalog. In such a case I would appreciate their cooperation because I am working on a definitive monography of Prague postmarks from 1782 to 1900. Photo pictures of any unusual and unknown Prague postmarks from that period would be very much appreciated and respective costs of these pictures will be compensated.

(Translated-adapted by lhv)



Kukló	Kuklov	Kyvečeš	Štrkovec
Kuks, Slotov-	Slotov-Kuks		
Kukus	Kuks		
Kulm bei Karbitz	Chlum u Cha- bařovic	Laanschitz	Čeklýs
Kumrowitz	Brno 17	Labant	Labut
Kunau	Kunov	Labau	Huti
Kunau Fabrik	Kunov továrna	Laborczfö	Haburie
Kunčice Malé	Malé Kunčice u Mor. Ostravy	Labská Týnice	Týnec nad Labem
	Velké Kunčice	Ladamcovce	Ladmovce
Kunčice Velké	Konošov	Ladomérmezö	Krajná Polana
Kuneschhay	Konošov	Ladomérvágása	Ladomirová
Kunětice Velké	Velké Kunětice u Supíkovice	Ladomócz	Ladmovce
Kunewald	Kunvald na Moravě	Ladowitz	Ledvice
Kunnersdorf a. d. D.	Kunratice v Rudohoří	Lahn ob Gruben	Lány na Důlku
B. B.		Lakács	Lukačovice
Kunnersdorf b.	Kunnersdorf u Frýdlandu v	Laki	Louky ve Slezsku
Friedland i. B.	Čechách	Laksárújfalu	Lakšárska Nová Ves
Kunnersdorf b.	Kunratice u Cvikova	Lakszakállas	Laksakálaš
Zwischau	Kunratice v Rudohoří	Lalava	Lalovo
Kunnersdorf im Erzgebirge	Konošov	Lalová	Lalovo
Kunosvágása	Konošov	Lamacs	Lamač
Kunošov	Konošov	Lampaš (Velký)	Velký Lapáš
Kuntapolecza	Kunová Teplice	Lampersdorf	Lampertice
Kunzendorf b. Mähr.	Kunčina u Moravské Třebové	Landek	Ostročin
Trübau		Landshut	Lanzhot
Kúpele Sliač	Sliač Kúpele	Landschau	Lanzov
Kupferberg	Měděnec	Landsitz	Čeklýs
Kuprowitz	Kopařovice	Landskron	Laňskroun
Kurau	Korouhev	Lándzsásötfalu	Svätý Ondřej, župa spišská
Kurimiany	Kurima	Langenau b. Böhm.	Skalice u Čes.
Kurlupp	Chrlopy	Leipa	Lípy
Kürtabony	Sklabiná nad Iplom	Langenberg	Dlouhá Stráň
Kurtakesi	Kurtakesi	Langenbruck	Dlouhomostí
Kuschwarda	Kunžvart	Langenbruck-	Dlouhomostí-
Kutná Hora, Sedlec-	Sedlec-Kutná Hora	Hermannsthal	Jeřmanice
Kutscherau	Kučerov	Langentriebe	Dlouhá Třebová
Kuttelberg	Kutlberk	Lange Wiese	Muráňská Dlhá Lúka
Kuttenberg	Kutná Hora	Lang Pirnitz	Dlouhá Brtnice
Kuttenplan	Chodova Planá	Langwasser	Dlouhá Voda
Kuttenthal	Chotětov	Lanov Dolní	Dolní Lanov
Kutti	Kúty	Lanov Horní	Horní Lanov
Kužmice	Kuzmice	Lanov Prostřední	Prostřední Lanov
Kwasney	Kvasiny	Lanz	Lomnice u Falknova n. Ohří
Kynice Německé	Německé Knínice	Lapáš (Velký)	Velký Lapáš
Kýr Velký	Velký Kýr	Laubendorf	Limberk
Kyryháza	Királháza	Laun	Louny
Kyselka Bílina	Bílina-Kyselka	Laupnik	Velký Lipník
Kyselka Krondorf	Krondorf Kyselka	Lausche	Lysá ☒
Kysucké Nové	Nové Mesto nad	Lauterbach b.	Litrbachy u
Mesto	Kysucou	Litomyšl	Litomyšle
Kytlice	Kitlice	Lauterbach b.	Lauterbach u Bečova nad Teplou
		Petschau	Čistá v Krkonoších
		Lauterwasser	Lučivna
		Lautschburg	

Lautschin	Loučeň	Leváry (Leváre)	Velké Leváry
Lautschitz	Blučina	Velké	
Laxar-Neudorf	Lakšárska Nová Ves	Lewentz	Levice
Láz	Lazy na Slovensku	Lewin	Levín
Lázně Františkovy	Františkovy	Lewin-Geltschberg	Levín-Golčberk
	Lázně	Lhota Bilá	Bilá Lhota
Lázně Janské	Janské Lázně	Lhota Červená	Červená Lhota
Lázně Konstantinovy	Konstantinovy	Lhota Dlouhá	Dlouhá Lhota
	Lázně	Lhota Horní	Horní Lhota
Lázně Marianské	Marianské Lázně	Lhota Hroznová	Hroznová Lhota
Lázně Ostrov,	Mstětice-Lázně	Lhota Jestřábí	Jestřábí Lhota
Mstětice	Ostrov	Lhota Kamenná	Kamenná Lhota
Lázně Poděbrady	Poděbrady	Lhota Klášterská	Klásterská Lhota
Lázně Velký Losín	Velký Losín	Lhota Komorní	Komorní Lhota
	Lázně	Lhota Malá	Malá Lhota
Lecker	Lekýr	Lhota Německá	Německá Lhota
Lédecz	L'adce	Lhota Panská	Panská Lhota
Ledény	Ladzany	Lhota Velká	Velká Lhota
Lednické Rovne	Lednica Rovne	Lhota Vranová	Vranová Lhota
Lednicz	Lednica	Lhota Zálesní	Zálesní Lhota
Ledniczróna	Lednica Rovne	Lhota Zelená	Zelená Lhota
Lefantovce Horné	Horné Lefantovce	Lhoty Vyšní	Vyšní Lhoty
Legenvealsómibályi	Legiňa-	Libava Dolní	Dolní Libava
	Michalany	Libavá Město	Město Libavá
Lég Velký	Velký Lég	Libetbánya	L'ubietova
Lehôtka Dolná	Dolná Lehôtka	Libchavy České	České Libchavy
Lehôtka Horná	Horná Lehôtka	Libchavy Dolní	Dolní Libchavy
Lehôtka Janova	Janova Lehôtka	Libina Moravská	Moravská Libina
Lehôtka Králova	Králova Lehôtka	Libiny Německé	Německé Libiny
Lehôtka Horná Vyšná	Horná	Libnič Lázně	Lázně Libnič
	Lehôtka	Liboch	Liběchov
Lehôtka Oravská	Horná	Libochowan	Libochovany
	Lehôtka	Libouchec, Tisá-	Tisá-Libouchec
Lechwitz	Lechovice	Libtaň	Luboměř (p. Podštát)
Leibicz	L'ubica	Libverda Lázně	Lázně Libverda
Leipertitz	Litobratřice	Licze-Gieze	Licinice Hucin
Leitersdorf	Litultovice	Lič Horní	Horní Lič
Leitmeritz	Litoměřice	Liebau Stadt	Město Libavá
Leitomischl	Litomyšl	Liebauthal	Dolní Libava
Lekér	Lekýr	Liebenau	Hodkovice
Lelesz	Leleš	Liebenthal (Böhmen)	Dolní Dobrouč
Lemes	Lemešany	Liebenthal (Mähren)	Lubomř (p. Podštát)
Leopoldovo	Leopoldov	Liebenthal, Schles.	Liptál ve Slezsku
Leopoldstadt	Leopoldov	Liebesdorf	Obědné
Lepinke	Lipinka	Liebeschitz b. Auscha	Liběšice u Ouštěku
Lesche	Leština	Liebeschitz bei Saaz	Lubišice u Zátce
Leskau, Böhmen	Leškov		
Leskau (Mähren)	Brno 25		
Lesní Brána, Teplice-	Teplice-Lesní Brána	Liebotitz	Libědice
Leszété	Podolie na Slovensku	Liebotschan	Libočany
Letiny Lázně	Lázně Letiny	Liebshausen	Libčeves
Lautschau	Levoča	Liebstadt	Libštát
Leutschburg	Lučivna	Liebwerda Bad	Lázně Libverda
Léva	Levice	Lieskové Dolné	Dolné Lieskove
Leváry (Leváre) Malé	Malé Leváry	Lieskové Moravské	Moravské Lieskové

Ligetfalu	Petržalka	Lobenstein	Úvalno
Ligotka Kamerálna	Komorní Lhota	Lobnig	Lomnice u Rýmařova
Lihn	Lině	Lobonya	Lubina
Lichkov, Mladkov-	Mladkov-Lichkov	Lobositz	Lovosice
Lichten	Lichnov	Löcse	Levoča
Lichtenau	Lichkov	Loděnice Německá	Německá Loděnice
Lichtenstadt	Hroznětín	Lodenitz b. Pohrlitz	Loděnice u Pohořelice
Lichtenstein	Leštany	Lodina (Malá)	Malá Lodžina
Lichtewerden	Lichtvard	Lodzina Malá	Malá Lodžina
Lindenau	Lindava ☒	Lohovice Velké	Velké Lohovice
Lindenau Fabrik	Lindava továrna	Loipersdorf	Štvtok na Žitnom Ostrove
Lindenau	Lindava		
Lipa Česká	Česká Lipa	Lok (Lok Hronský)	Hronský Lok
Lipa Krásná	Krásná Lipa	Lomigsdorf	Dlouhomilov
Lipese	Lipša	Lomná Dolní	Dolní Lomná
Lipča	Lipša	Lomna Górna	Horní Lomná
Lipník Malý	Malý Lipník	Lomná Horní	Horní Lomná
Lipník Velký	Velký Lipník	Lomnica Tatranská	Tatranská Lomnica
Lipolz	Lipolec		
Lipótvár	Leopoldov	Lomnica Velká	Velká Lomnica
Lipová Dolní	Dolní Lipová	Lonkau	Louky ve Slezsku
Lipová Horní	Horní Lipová	Lontó	Lontov
Liptice, Duchcov-	Duchcov-Liptice	Lónyabánya	Lovinobánya
Liptószenticán	Liptovský Sv. Ján	Loosdorf	Ludvikovice
Liptószentmiklós	Liptovský Sv. Mikuláš	Losenice Velká	Velká Losenice
Liptótepla	Liptovská Teplá	Lösch	Líšeň
Liptóteplieska	Liptovská Teplička	Loschitz	Loštice
Liptóújár	Hrádok, župa Liptovská	Löschna	Lešná
Liptovská Kokava	Kokava, župa Liptovská	Loschowitz	Lovečkovice
Liptovský Biely Potok	Biely Potok, župa Liptovská	Losimthal Nový	Nový Losimthal
Liptovský Hrádok	Hrádok, župa Liptovská	Losin Nový	Nový Losín
		Losín Velký Lázně	Velký Losín Lázně
		Losoneztamasi	Tomašovce pri Lučenci
Liptovský Trnovec	Trnovec	Losonz	Lučenec
Liquitz	Libkovic v Rudohoří	Loštice, Moravičany	Moravičany-Loštice
Lischan bei Saaz	Lišany u Žatec		
Liskovec	Brno 25	Loučky Dolní	Dolní Loučky
Lispitz	Blížkovice	Lovča Velká	Velká Lovča
Lissitz	Lysice	Loviná	Lovinobánya
Lissowitz	Lisovice	Lubela Králova	Králova Lubela
Liszkófalva	Lisková	Lubenz	Lubenec
Lišany, Lužná-	Lužná-Lišany	Luboka	Hlboké
Littau	Litovel	Lubotény	Lubotýň
Littitz Werk	Litice Hory	Lubotina	Lubotýň
Littmitz	Litnice	Lubovňa Stará	Stará Lubovňa
Littohorn	Litohoř	Luby, Týnec-	Týnec-Luby
Litva	Litava	Luck	Luky, Čechy
Litvailló	Lietava Lúčka	Lucsivna	Lučivna
Litvamező	Lietava Lúčka	Luckskifürdő	Lúčky Kúpele
Litvínov Dolní	Dolní Litvínov	Luczató	Lučatin
Litvínov Horní	Horní Litvínov	Lučki Velikie	Velikije Lučki
Ljeszek	Liesek	Lučki Velké	Velikije Lučki
Lobeč, Vrátno-	Vrátno-Lobeč	Lučovice	Loučovice
Lobendau	Lobendava	Ludanice	Ludany nad Nitrou

Ludgierzowitz	Ludheřovice	Mährisch Weisskirchen	Hranice
Ludince Velké	Velké Ludince	Mährisch Weisswasser	Bílá Voda na Mor.
Luditz	Žlutice		
Ludwigsthal	Ludvikov	Maidelberg	Dívčí Hrad
Luggau	Lukov u Znojma	Majtechov	Majeichov
Lukančnye	Lúka Nanince	Majtény	Majeichov
Lukavice Dolní	Dolní Lukavice	Malá Bytča	Bytčica
Lukó	Lukov na Slovensku	Malaczka	Malachy
Lundenburg	Břeclava	Malá Chocholná	Chocholná
Lupča Nemecká	Nemecká Lupča	Malá Chuchle	Chuchle
Lupča Slovenská	Slovenská Lupča	Malá Paludza	Palúdzka
Lupča Zvolenská	Slovenská Lupča	Malá Skála	Vranovč-Malá Skála
Lusdorf a. d. Tafelfichte	Lusdorf pod Smrkem	Málcza	Malčice
Lusdorf	Lubník	Malé Berezné	Maloje Bereznoje
Luta	Ljuta	Malé Čejtice	Čejtičky
Lutyně Nemecká	Německá Lutyně	Malé Ďarmoty	Ďarmotky
Lutyně Polská	Polská Lutyně	Malé Levre	Malé Leváry
Lutynia Polská	Polská Lutyně	Malé Topolčany	Topolčianky
Luzsna	Lužna	Malešice, Hrdlořezy	Hrdlořezy-Malešice
		Mal Vlašky	Vlašky
Mackovice	Moskovice	Málnapatak	Málinec
Maczola	Močola	Malsching	Myšlany
Máčad Velký (Hrubý)	Velký Máčad	Malspitz	Malešovice
Mačola	Močola	Maltheuern	Záluží v Rudohoří
Madarský Sók	Šók	Maluzsina	Malužina
Magyarbél	Madarský Běl	Malý Salov	Hronské šarlňhy
Magyarböd	Bídovce	Mána Velká	Velká Mána
Magyardiszeg	Dioseg	Maniga	Malženice
Magyarfalu	Uhorská Ves nad Mohavou	Mankendorf	Mankovice
	Uhorský Žipov	Mannersdorf	Manerov
Magyarizsép	Koprivnice	Margitfalva	Margecany
Magyarkaproneza	Slovenské Raslavice	Margonya	Marhaň
Magyarraszlavicza	Šók	Marhany	Marhaň
	Madarský Seldín	Mariahilf	Nová Ves, p. Vlasatice
Magyarsoók	Staré Město na sev. Moravě	Mariahuta	Mariahuta
Magyarszögyén	Úsov	Zakárfalva	Žakarovce
Mährisch . . .	Moravský, -á, -é . . .	Maria Kulm	Chlum u Falknova n. Ohří
Mährisch Altstadt	Staré Město na sev. Moravě	Maria Ratschitz	Marianské Radčice
		Mariaschein	Bohusudov
Mährisch Aussee	Moravské Budějovice	Máriatölgyes	Dubnica
Mährisch Budwitz	Hartice	Marienbad	Marianské Lázně
	Karlova na Mor.	Marienberg	Marianské Hory
Mährisch Karlsdorf	Moravský Kočov	Marienthal b.	Mariaské údolí u Olomouce
Mährisch Kotzendorf	Moravský Krumlov	Olmütz	Olomouček
Mährisch Kromau	Unčov	Marienthal (Slov.)	Blatnica (šarišská)
Mährisch Neustadt	Moravská Ostrava		
Mährisch Ostrau	Radiměř	Marikó	Maríková
Mährisch Rothmühl	Červená Voda	Markausch	Marxoušovice
	Šumperk	Markersdorf a. d. B. N. B.	Markvartice u České Kamenice
Mährisch Rothwasser	Moravská Třebová	Markersdorf am Jeschken	Markvartice pod Ještědem
Mährisch Schönberg		Markersdorf b.	Markvartice u České Kamenice
Mährisch Trübau		Böhm. Kamnitz	

TWO SIZES OF THE KDE DOMOV MUJ SOUVENIR SHEET

By Ing V. Hečko and Dr. J. Dykyj

from Filatelie

While checking the measurements of several copies of these souvenir sheets we were surprised by our discovery of two different sizes among them. These now very expensive and highly valued souvenir sheets were issued December 21, 1934 in relatively small numbers—1 Kč SS issue had 12,900 copies, and 2 Kč SS issue just 9600 copies. Each souvenir sheet has 15 stamps and appropriate text; the perforation is 13½ by 13. The flat plate recess printing method was used on a soft, glueless paper. The size of sheets is not uniform; their height varies from 280 to 299 millimeters and their width from 172 to 176 millimeters. However different sizes of sheet do not mean that the picture itself should also vary in size. Many souvenir sheets, especially older ones, are printed on different size panes but their pictures' size remaining unchanged. In case of these Kde Domov Můj Souvenir sheets (also called here "Musical" souvenir sheets) there are variations both in width and length of their respective pictures. These can be easily and clearly registered by comparing the length of single staff lines in the pictures. Thus a different length of the picture will be established by measuring the distance between the highest and lowest staff lines in the picture. This method allowed us to establish the following different sizes of both 1 Kč and 2 Kč souvenir sheet: 1st type, the length of staff lines 101.6 millimeters; 2nd type, the length of staff lines 103.9 millimeters. Further, distances between the highest and lowest staff lines are: 1st type 202.9 millimeters, 2nd type 199 millimeters.

Therefore the length of staff lines on Type II souvenir sheet is some 2.3 millimeters shorter than those on Type I sheet, while the picture on Type I sheet is higher than the one on the Type II sheet. Consequently, the picture on Type I sheet is thus slightly higher and longer but at the same time narrower than that one on Type II sheet. Although the difference in size of both PICTURES is several millimeters, the size of both SHEETS is nearly the same. For example, the picture on 1 Kč souvenir sheet Type I as compared to one on Type II is $202.9:199=1.015$ thus some 1.5% higher. Likewise the width of the picture on Type II as compared with that one on Type I is $103.9:101.6=1.023$, thus some 2.3% wider than that one of Type I. The same ratios may apply to all heights of Type I ss as compared with the Type II ss. Also all HORIZONTAL measurements on Type II ss are approximately about 2.3% longer than on Type I ss. For example, the average size of stamps on Type I ss is 17.2x29.9 mm while on Type II is 16.8x30.5 mm.

How then, can we explain different sizes of the picture of both types? One presumption would be that both types of these souvenir sheets were printed with 2 different plates, but this is improbable on two counts. First, the total number of printed sheets was limited. And second, in view of the printing method used, two different engravings would obviously be needed. But we have a definite evidence that BOTH types of these souvenir sheets were printed from ONE plate. For example, if we compare positions of control printing dots, clearly visible in the upper left corners of stamps, we find that these dots are exactly the same on both types of souvenir sheets. Likewise small printing errors and flaws on sheets are identical on both types.

For example, here are some flaws on 1Kč souvenir sheet: Two dots under the letter "p" in the preposition "po lučinách"; a dot before the middle staff line of the top note group under the stamps; another dot before the dynamic notation "pp" (pianissimo) over the last (bottom) staff line; a dot between letters "K" and "d" in the title line "Kde" and others.

Thus the different size of the picture was the result of additional shrink-

age of paper AFTER printing. With the printing method used in this case (flat plate recess press) this was possible. Similar case is the official 30 h. Novotny stamp (purple) and its print error. Also the Czech stamps with watermarks are another proof of this post-printing shrinkage of paper.

Different shrinkage of paper could appear as the result of various factors like different paper production processes; different shrinkage effect; and papers' relative "ripeness." Going back to the Kde Domov Můj souvenir sheets, Type I sheets were for example printed on a paper from 0.19 up 0.21 millimeters thick while a thinner paper was used for the sheets of Type II— from 0.165 up to 0.18 mm. It is difficult to estimate the ratio between these two types of these souvenir sheets. Suffice to say that the Czechoslovak Postal Museum has both types of these souvenir sheets in its archives.

(translated/adapted by lhv)

EDITORIAL

The Praga 1968 Exhibition Committee sent us a notice requesting the publication of the questionnaire you will find on the first pages of this issue, including the reproduction of an original drawing arranged for by us which may interest you. We think the illustration is a fine piece of work and it should please the committee in Prague. We publish this in much lighter vein than usual for our Specialist for your amusement.

There are collectors who really do not belong to organized philately. They would not take time to express their views whenever an appropriate occasion may arise and are disgruntled later on when things do not go their way. We shall go into no detail but wish only to emphasize that it is the responsibility of any member of the society to show his interest whenever changes are proposed. He should take the few minutes required to express his opinion when it is asked of him. Postmortem criticism is not only of no value but is most unfair.

Instead of going to Praha we shall be in California by the time this issue reaches you. We have never been there before and expect to spend some time with our son who is located at one of the Air Force Bases as a civilian forecaster. Our editorial obligations in connection with the Specialist as well as the PHJ shall have been met by the end of April and we shall feel free to take off on this journey. We wish you all a pleasant summer!

We were pleased to receive a pleasant note from Mr. Jiranek and we wish him all the best.

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Parade Of New Issues

Edited by Frank Kosik

Space Research — March 24, 1967



This new set, designed by the painter Jaroslav Lukavský, is grounded in the present but points to the near future. All that is pictured on the stamps is either an actual fact, e.g. photographs of the moon's surface made by America's Orbiter 2 (on the 1.20 Kčs stamp) or else in the stage of design, e.g. the lunar observatory shown on the 1.60 Kčs stamp. Increasing numbers of probes will be sent to the sun (30 h stamp) and the planets of our solar system (1 Kčs stamp).

30h—Solar research with the aid of satellites. Colors, red and yellow. Engraved by Ladislav Jirka.

40h—From the meeting of vessels to the assembly of space laboratories in orbit. Colors, blue and grey-black. Engraved by Bedřich Housa.

60h—Man on the moon—orientation systems. Colors, violet and green. Engraved by Josef Herčík.

1Kčs—Study of the planets of our solar system. Colors, blue and dark red. Engraved by Jindra Schmidt.

1.20Kčs—Lunar satellites—Lunas and lunar orbiters. Colors, blue and violet. Engraved by Bedřich Housa.

1.60Kčs—Lunar architecture—design of a lunar observatory. Colors, red and grey. Engraved by Ladislav Jirka.

Printed by rotary recess print combined with photogravure in sheets of 50. Dimensions of the stamp pictures are 49x30 mm.

Three First Day Covers designed by Jaroslav Lukavský and engraved by Jaroslav Goldschmied were issued.

Expo 67—Montreal" — April 10, 1967

The designs were executed by the academic artist Karel Vodák.

30h—Gothic Art—Religious painting by Master Theodoric of the 14th century. Colors, yellow, red, blue, black. Engraved by Jindra Schmidt.

40h—Codex of Jena—Burning of John Hus—Religious painting of the 16th cent. Colors, yellow, red, brown, blue, black. Engraved by Bedřich Housa.

60h—Lead Crystal by René Roubíček. Colors, orange, violet, green, black. Engraved by Jindra Schmidt.

80h—A Fairy Tale, from Andersen's Tales. Illustration by Jiří Trnka. Colors, yellow, red, blue, green, black. Engraved by Ladislav Jirka.

1.00Kčs—Technical Progress—A section of a pressure vessel for Czechoslo-



vakian atomic power station. Colors, rose, red, black, light blue, dark blue. Engraved by Ladislav Jirka.

1.20Kčs—Ceramic Art—figurines by Pravoslav Rada. Colors, blue, red, green, black. Engraved by Josef Herčík.



3.00Kčs—A perforated souvenir sheet. View of Montreal seen from the Czechoslovak pavilion. Below the stamp on the sheet there is the design of the Czechoslovak pavilion. Colors, yellow, red, green, blue, black. Engraved by Josef Herčík.

The stamps, as well as the Souvenir Sheet, bear an inscription in Czech, French and English.

The stamps were printed by flat bed recess print in sheets of 10. The size of the pictorial part is 37x23 mm, the dimension of the stamp on the sheet is 40x30 mm, the dimension of the sheet is 95x75 mm.

Four First Day Covers were also issued. They were designed by the author of the stamps and engraved by Jaroslav Goldschmied.

VINCENT DOMANSKI

One of our good friends and a Charter Member, No. 46, of our Society passed away quite unexpectedly just a few days ago. He was a fine student of the Polish postal issues and had been active in a number of philatelic societies. At Sipex in 1966 he was on the panel of the International Jury and at the dinner of the Czechoslovak Philatelic Society during the Exhibition, he expressed to us his pleasure at having had the opportunity to serve on such a panel. To his family we wish to express our heartfelt sympathy and that of the officers and members.

GOING TO PRAGA 1968?

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